

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 17858 231542Z

43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 FEA-02 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIEP-03

COME-00 FPC-01 INT-08 OMB-01 SAM-01 SCI-06 STR-08

TRSE-00 FRB-03 DRC-01 /190 W  
----- 091827

R 231503Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1056

INFO/RUDKSNQ/AMEMBASSY OSLO 2670

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 17858

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, FR, OECD

SUBJECT: THE FRENCH AND THE ECG

REF: A) OECD 17688, B) BONN 11503, C) STATE 158015

D) PARIS 17254

1. WE AGREE WITH AMBASSADOR VALERY (REF A) THAT  
GOF "MEANS BUSINESS" AND HAS SERIOUS INTEREST IN PAR-  
TICIPATING IN WORK AND PROGRAMS WHICH WILL RESULT FROM  
PRESENT STAGE OF ECG/IEP NEGOTIATIONS. IT FOLLOWS THAT  
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PAGE 02 PARIS 17858 231542Z

GOF IS SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT DECISIONS TAKEN WITHIN

ECG BE ONES WITH WHICH IT CAN SUBSEQUENTLY LIVE. ONLY GOF MECHANISM TO ASSURE THIS (SHORT OF DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WITH US OR ECG GROUP, WHICH WE HAVE SO FAR AVOIDED AS MUCH AS THEY) HAS BEEN TO ATTEMPT TO HAVE THEIR VIEWS HEARD THROUGH EC PARTNERS. WE BELIEVE GOF IS ESSENTIALLY IN AGREEMENT WITH IEP CONCEPT, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME DESIRE TO BARGAIN OVER SOME OF THE SHARING OR OTHER FORMULAS. MAJOR GOF CONCERN CONSEQUENTLY APPEARS TO BE QUESTION OF INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR IEP AND ECG FOLLOW-ON.

2. REPORTED FRENCH ATTEMPTS TO SLOW DOWN ECG TIMETABLE (REF B) SHOULD, WE BELIEVE, BE SEEN IN THIS LIGHT, THAT IS, GOF IS TRYING TO AVOID RUSH TOWARD AGREEMENT ON IEP BY ITS EC COLLEAGUES BEFORE INSTITUTIONAL QUESTION IS SOLVED. FRENCH OBVIOUSLY RECOGNIZE NEED FOR CHANGE IN OECD FRAMEWORK IF IT IS TO SERVE AS MOTHER ORGANIZATION FOR IEP. MINISTRY OF FINANCE REQUEST TO AMBASSADOR VALERY IS GOOD SIGN THAT GOF IS SEARCHING SERIOUSLY FOR WAYS TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT. WHILE FONMINISTRY (PRISONER, PERHAPS, OF ITS BILATERAL AND GAULLIST TRADITIONS) HAS SOME NOTICEABLE RESERVATIONS ABOUT FRENCH POSITION VIS-A-VIS ECG AND IEP, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WILL EVENTUALLY BE BROUGHT AROUND BY OTHERS SUCH AS MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, FINANCE - AND, BY EXTENSION - PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.

3. FROM PARIS, IT APPEARS THAT WE WILL CONSEQUENTLY HAVE TO ADDRESS INSTITUTIONAL ISSUE EARLIER THAN WE MIGHT HAVE WISHED. WE WELCOME INDICATION IN PARA 4, REF C, THAT WASHINGTON IS CONSIDERING DISCUSSING ISSUE WITH FRENCH. WE DO NOT BELIEVE HOWEVER IT WOULD BE USEFUL AT FIRST TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTLY, BOTH BECAUSE THAT MINISTRY MIGHT CHOSE TO SEE THIS AS INITIATIVE ON OUR PART REQUESTING THEIR PARTICIPATION, AND BECAUSE OF THEIR GENERALLY SOMEWHAT NEGATIVE POSITION. WE SUGGEST THAT WE THEREFORE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF AMBASSADOR VALERY'S "PERSONAL" INITIATIVE TO PASS BACK TO GOF - INCLUDING MINISTRY OF FINANCE - OUR OPINIONS ON THIS ISSUE, ALONG WITH SUG-  
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PAGE 03 PARIS 17858 231542Z

GESTION THAT ANY FURTHER EXCHANGES BE CARRIED OUT IN DIRECT GOF-USG CHANNELS.  
IRWIN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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